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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

NEW WAR DEPARTMENT BUILDING

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

7 July 1947

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Country: USSR

Subject: Camp No. 150 for German Field Grade Officers near
Oryasovets, Vologda Oblast

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1. German field grade officer PWs, detained at Camp 150 near Oryasovets (58°42'N, 40°12'E) on the Archangelsk-Moscow railroad line, are encouraged to utilize their spare time in evolving tactical problems and German field and attack situations. These problems are used for training purposes in the Soviet Army and military schools.
2. Small groups of high-ranking German officers are often invited to join in evening discussions with their Russian opposite numbers. These discussions usually revolve around tactical questions and offensive action. The Germans who take an active part in these sessions are also invited to Russian parties.
3. Camp 150 is run by an elderly colonel, who caters to his German charges and takes care that Russian EM do not infringe upon the officer PWs' rights. The PWs are interrogated only once; it is expected that further information will be volunteered. Those with politically objectionable backgrounds are accorded the same treatment as other PWs. It is believed that this good treatment stems from the Russians' desire to induce experienced officers to join the Soviet Army.
4. As long as the Komitee Freies Deutschland existed, political indoctrination of the PWs was entrusted to German officer members of that organization, under Russian supervision. The KFD has been replaced by the Association of Anti-Fascist German Prisoners of War, in which membership is voluntary. eighty percent of "the officers of good character"

Extracted by I.R.

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belong to this group. Camp 150 also has a number of clubs formed on a geographical basis, i.e., groups of PWs from Saxony, others from Franconia, etc. The PWs are also free to attend Catholic and Protestant church services.

The majority of the Russians on the staff of Camp 150 were non-combatants during the war and have never been outside the USSR.

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